

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 to 9 without prejudice and add the following new claims

10 to 20:

Claims 1 to 9 (canceled).

10(new). A method of preserving a perishable cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical preparation, said method comprising the step of adding bioactive glass particles to said preparation.

11(new). The method as defined in claim 10, wherein said preparation contains up to 10 percent by weight of said bioactive glass particles after the adding.

12(new). The method as defined in claim 10, wherein said bioactive glass particles have particle sizes (d_{50}) less than or equal to 10 μm .

13(new). The method as defined in claim 10, wherein said bioactive glass particles contain at least 2 percent by weight phosphorous oxide, but do not contain or release at least one toxic metal cation.

14(new). The method as defined in claim 13, wherein said at least one toxic metal cation is selected from the group consisting of Ag^+ , Cu^{+2} , Cu^+ and Zn^{+2} .

15(new). The method as defined in claim 10, wherein said bioactive glass particles contain from 40 to 60 percent by weight of SiO₂, from 10 to 30 percent by weight CaO, from 10 to 35 percent by weight of Na₂O, from 2 to 8 percent by weight of P₂O₅, from 0 to 25 percent by weight of CaF₂, from 0 to 10 percent by weight of B₂O₃, from 0 to 8 percent by weight of K₂O and 0 to 5 percent by weight of MgO.

16(new). A cosmetic preparation with alcohol content insufficient for preservation, said cosmetic preparation comprising bioactive glass particles and a liquid;

wherein said bioactive glass particles have a refractive index that is close enough to that of said liquid so that said bioactive glass particles are substantially invisible to an observer.

17(new). The cosmetic preparation as defined in claim 16, wherein said bioactive glass particles have a particle size (d₅₀) of less than or equal to 10 µm.

18(new). The cosmetic preparation as defined in claim 16, wherein said bioactive glass particles contain at least 2 percent by weight phosphorous oxide

19(new). The cosmetic preparation as defined in claim 18, wherein said bioactive glass particles do not contain or release at least one toxic metal cation.

20(new). The cosmetic preparation as defined in claim 16, wherein said bioactive

glass particles contain from 40 to 60 percent by weight of SiO₂, from 10 to 30 percent by weight CaO, from 10 to 35 percent by weight of Na₂O, from 2 to 8 percent by weight of P₂O₅, from 0 to 25 percent by weight of CaF₂, from 0 to 10 percent by weight of B₂O₃, from 0 to 8 percent by weight of K₂O and 0 to 5 percent by weight of MgO.